

Minutes

Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Atrium Room, City Hall at 5:00 pm

Attendance:

Mary Jane Clark, Stephen Holmes, Peter Howes, Robin McDonald, James McWilliam
John Stevens, Dick Thomas, Peter Thompstone

Staff Liaison:

Ilyse Norton, Ray Vachon

Absent: Scott Ritchie

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1. **Call meeting to order** (Peter Thompstone) 5:03 pm
 2. **Additions / Deletions to the Agenda:**
 - John Stevens requested an item under item 7. Business: **Municipal Flower**
 3. **Motion to approve the Agenda:** John Stevens
 4. **Presentations:** Nil
 5. **Motion to adopt minutes from the previous meeting:** Peter Howes
 6. **Business arising from the minutes:**
 - a. **Updates on 2016/2017 Projects and Budgets.** Only projects with changes from the last report are included in the updates below.

#2: 327 Glendale Parkette: Peter Thompstone reported there had been some progress on approving the three (3) signs. Although not related to the GAC funded part of this project, he also advised of further work that may be done, subject to partnered funding.

#4: James / Lake / Welland: Although there was nothing new to report, Peter Thompstone requested that Ilyse Norton see if PRCS had been able to locate a spot to store the "Y Arch".

6: Eastchester at Bunting: Peter Howes reported that he and John Stevens had accompanied city staff who dug 4 'test-pits' to determine suitability for planting the proposed greening. Two of the four pits were deemed suitable for the project the other two were considered unsuitable. With this advice, the GAC requested that James McWilliam

review his plan to fit the new acceptable planting areas with a view to having a spring planting. The GAC thanked both John Stevens and Peter Howes for their work to get this project moving.

- **Secretarial note:** *Following the meeting, John Stevens circulated the “Test Pit Investigation at Eastchester/Bunting Gore” report for GAC information.*

12: Walker’s Creek - Planting Beds: Peter Thompstone advised the GAC that O’Hara Trucking & Excavating had offered to donate the armour stone for bed #2, they plan to place the stones over the winter. Peter Thompstone will develop a plan for the spring planting.

13: Green Roof: The GAC still considers this to be a high priority. While the reality is that the limited GAC budget will never be able to afford any project of this nature; the GAC can still advocate for Green Roofs. The GAC requested that Mary Jane Clark continue her research efforts and the GAC, in its ‘advisory role’, will advise the City that any future buildings should consider incorporation of a green roof.

- **Secretarial Note:** *On 29 Nov, Mary Jane Clark circulated the City of Toronto Green Roof By-law for GAC review.*

15: Lake Street Armoury: Peter Thompstone continues to try to find a way to prepare a 3-D representation for the project.

22: Pollinator Water Bill Flyer: Ilyse Norton circulated the final edition of the proposed flyer; she indicated that proposed changes submitted by members had been incorporated into the flyer. The GAC thanked Ilyse for her work and requested that she pass on the GAC ‘Thanks’ to the graphic design crew for their excellent work. Ilyse Norton will investigate prices for reproduction of the flyer.

- **Secretarial Note:** *After reviewing options and costs, as Chair and Co-Chair, Peter Thompstone and Peter Howes together with Ilyse Norton selected black print on green (what else?) paper. The flyer is to be inserted in the series of water / wastewater bills starting in January 2018.*

2018 Projects: The GAC continued the project dialogue by discussing possible 2018 projects. Dick Thomas had circulated a project list which incorporated yet to be completed 2017 projects along with proposed new 2018 projects. It was noted that a numbering system, to allow us to better track a project’s progress, which was suggested by John Stevens, would be adopted. Recurring, but ‘year unique’ projects, would be listed as the first projects for the year in question. Following discussion, a GAC agreed list was approved. The 2018 project list (as an excel file) forms part of, and will be circulated with, these minutes.

7. **Business.**

- **Tree Planting Standards.** Prior to the meeting, Ilyse Norton had circulated the current City of St Catharines ‘Tree Planting Standards’. She advised that she and Don Cooper, Supervisor of Forestry, were in the process of rewriting / updating the standards. She requested the GAC members provide suggestions for possible incorporation into the revised standards. James McWilliam described a new practice where trees were planted using a trench (vs a ‘hole’) system which promises a greater chance of successful tree survival and future growth. He wondered if that practice could form part of the revision.

- Ilyse advised that the current standards are, more or less, OK as written. The problem is that the standards need to be enforced which seems to be easier said than done.
 - **Trees on 4th Avenue.** “4th Avenue trees” had been included as part of the proposed 2018 project list. Ilyse Norton advised that PRCS were currently looking into the feasibility of such an endeavour (of possibly planting up to 100 trees). The GAC agreed that this could be another GAC / City collaborative project. Mary Jane Clark suggested the Vineland Research Station might have useful information on median tree planting.
 - **Municipal Flower.** John Stevens asked, rhetorically, if anyone knew what the St Catharines ‘Municipal Flower’ might be. Peter Thompstone advised it was the White Chrysanthemum and he believed that it was proposed by the St Catharines Horticultural Society in 1967, Canada’s Centennial.
8. **Correspondence:** Nil.
 9. **Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday, January 10, 2018.
 10. **Motion to Adjourn:** Mary Jane Clark at 7:20 pm.

Attachment:

Green Advisory Committee Proposed 2018 Project List (dated 29 Nov 2017)

***Green Advisory Committee
Proposed 2018 Project List***

Project		2017 Budget	Expended to date	Proposed 2018 Budget	Comments
#	Description				
15 02	327 Glendale Parkette	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	Remaining 2016 Commitment (Interpretative Sign only)
16 04	James / Lake / Welland	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	'Y' Arch approved, design to proceed
16 06	Eastchester at Bunting	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	Test-pits to be dug, future work depends on results
16 12	Walker's Creek	\$5,000.00	\$2,863.97	\$5,000.00	For Ph 2: PRCS has prep'd bed & pad for Spring planting
16 14	360 Niagara Arboretum	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	Path/entrance plans approved - prep for 'Visioning Exercise'
16 15	Lake Street Armoury	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	Peter T to use admin fund to get 3D representation
17 04	Relocatable Project sign	\$750.00	\$125.00	\$300.00	Signs cost ~ \$150 each
17 05	Green Roof	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	GAC to recommend only - Mary Jane to continue her review
17 07	Pollinator Water Bill Flyer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	Educational Flyer re Pollinator Plants
18 01	Community Garden (20% of GAC \$38K Budget)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,600.00	May be increased to \$20,000 with City Grant
18 02	Flower Pot Program	\$2,500.00	\$3,915.79	\$0.00	Recurring project - Should be a "Zero Cost" project
18 03	Trillium Awards	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	Recurring project
18 04	Administration	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	Recurring Project - Various requirements
18 05	Wildflower Pot Project (Education)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	Proposed project
18 06	4th Avenue Trees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	Proposed project
18 07	Carlisle/McGuire Raceway	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	Proposed project
18 08	TBA				
19 01	St Paul - Bridge to Meridian Centre	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Include on future year project list
N/A	Merritton (Eastmount Park) Community Garden	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Project to be included in Community Garden allotment (18 01)
Total Budgeted		\$51,750.00		\$70,900.00	Dated: 23 Nov 2017
Total Available		\$60,882.02		\$68,000.00	<< Carry over of \$30K from 2017 + \$38K for 2018
Over / Under Commitment		\$9,132.02		-\$2,900.00	